

Resolution 036
A Resolution to Reform DSS Testing Accommodation Requirements
Sponsored by: Senator Gehrig
Co-Sponsored by: Senator Curioso, Senator Downing, Senator Kruger,
Senator Zayas

Whereas,

The Catholic University of America's (CUA) Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) provides programs and services designed to support and encourage the integration of students with disabilities into the mainstream of the university community, as well as assisting in creating an accessible university community, which includes providing testing accommodations.¹

Whereas,

DSS currently requires that testing accommodations requests be made at least seven business days (excluding weekends and holidays) before a test is to be scheduled.²

Whereas,

If testing accommodations are requested later than the seven business day deadline, it is not guaranteed that the student will be able to take the test with accommodations.³

Whereas,

Professors set a syllabus at the beginning of the semester that outlines testing dates, but often change them or add additional days, sometimes with less than a week's notice.

Whereas,

Some students experience short-term disabilities throughout the school year, such as concussions, that occur less than seven business days before an exam but still require testing accommodations.

Whereas,

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), a testing entity must respond in a timely manner to requests for testing accommodations so as to ensure equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities.⁴

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that DSS testing accommodations requests be changed from seven business days before a test is to be scheduled to five business days before a test is to be scheduled.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

¹ <https://dss.catholic.edu/>

² <https://dss.catholic.edu/registered-students/accommodated-testing.html>

³ <https://dss.catholic.edu/registered-students/accommodated-testing.html>

⁴ https://archive.ada.gov/regs2014/testing_accommodations.html

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